

April 19, 2006: DMC Presentation at IUPUI School of Social Work (BSW Class)

The IDC presented for a BSW introductory child welfare class that is composed of high school students, social work students, nursing and education majors. The group participated very well in the dialogue and provided essential feedback in order for the committee to further along itself. DMC was a new issue brought to their attention by our committee. Many of the students expressed their personal experiences and thoughts of how they have been treated. The group was very dynamic. We had a few students from rural counties that never went to school with persons other than white individuals until they came to college. Other students had not realized the cross systems connection that is associated with DMC. This presentation was the first of its kind that was towards non-professionals. Although the material presented was similar to that of the trainings ... the comments and reactions were non-comparable.

April 21, 2006: Indiana Disproportionality Committee—Session II Training

IDC hosted its second training for committee members at the College Avenue Branch Library. The training consisted of six participants. Dialogue and discussion encompassed within the training focused on how to present the information in a non-offensive manner when issues of race and discrimination may occur. The presentation allowed committee workers to comment on the content of the material being disseminated at presentation opportunities. The training encouraged committee members to identify areas and/or responsibilities that needed strengthening and additional outlets and resources that needed to be included. The overall training passed very well. The Committee continues to have revisions to complete and is still heavy on recruitment. Furthermore all members that attended the committee training were pleased as well as impressed with the information and delivery of the presentation we currently have established.

April 25, 2006: State of our Black Youth (SOBY): Indianapolis Committee

The Indiana Criminal Justice Institute (ICJI) is an active member of the "Do Something" Initiative sponsored by Indiana Black Expo (IBE). Currently ICJI staff are working together to see if it would be possible to incorporate youth members of the Point of Youth (POY) program sponsored by ICJI to create and perform various skits about child abuse and neglect. Statistics provided in the SOBY report illustrate disparities of child abuse and neglect reports for minority children. The SOBY Indianapolis Committee is progressing steadily. Next meeting they will continue to brainstorm ideas and discuss creative ways to obtain funding to support their efforts.

April 28, 2006: Indiana University Center for Education and Evaluation Policy

The Indiana University Center for Education and Evaluation Policy will be assisting the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute (ICJI) in conducting research to prove if DMC exists in the juvenile justice system. At the first meeting between the two entities information was exchanged in reference to what ICJI has done in the past, possible methodology ideas, and identifying what needs to measured. The research obtained from the study will provide ICJI with a better representation of the degree of disproportionality Indiana may be experiencing.

Upcoming Events

May 10, 2006: Indiana Disproportionality Committee (Large) Meeting

May 4, 2006: Cathy Danyluk, DOE Juvenile Justice Liaison

May 24, 2006: State of our Black Youth Meeting May 30, 2006: OJJDP Web Based Query Due Date

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